

The
LOG

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**TOC H
WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

November-December

1966

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1966

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HOME OFFERED

An elderly lady (Toc H Builder) living alone in a sunny modern house in an attractive Devon village, seven miles from Exeter, offers a home free, in return for light duties (daily help), to a homely person who would enjoy a quiet life in the country (one dog kept!). She would have a bed sitting-room in a centrally heated house. There is a 'bus service into Exeter ('bus stop five minutes walk from the house) and Mrs. Holden has a car. If any member or friend is interested would they please get in touch with Alice Welford—address inside back cover.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1966

CHRISTMAS—it is a wonderful word.
And it's a wonderful time for men and women who know the full meaning of giving—the giving of time; the giving of imaginative understanding and practical help; the giving of skills; the giving of thanks . . .

Perhaps when you look at this number of THE LOG, you may feel—apart from p. 149—"Where's the Christmas in it?" But if you feel like that, look again and see what has been done by the fellowship ideal of Toc H and then, it seems to me, a kind of Christmas Tree—with deep, strong roots—is shown in growth and hung with many gifts of loving-kindness.

It is not a Christmas Tree planted to mark any self-satisfaction, nor decorated to shout: "See what *we* have done!" but surely, an offering of thanks to the fellowship of the Family which gives everyone it touches a job to get on with and a part in its own courage.

These two things are Christmas Gifts and reach back for their inspiration to the Message cradled in the Crib.

And Toc H is not a tight cosy-slippered little Family: it is open to all, and needs as many as will to come in and help with all that's to be done in the name of Christian friendship. It needs members to tell their friends—and perhaps even their enemies, if they have any!—the meaning of this active companionship and to let them in, bringing with them new and useful gifts. The whole idea is that there is room, heart and soul, for Everyman. And these are just reminders for you who all know it so much better than I . . .

IF you are a good speaker and want to offer that skill as your Christmas gift to the Family, read Elsa Perrin's news on page 162; and if you write well, support THE LOG. Many thanks to all members and friends who have contributed to the magazine during the year and helped to take the news of the Movement out beyond the Family doorstep in this way.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Editor: BARBARA VISE



Bridget Pulvermacher

From the General Secretary's Diary

VERA HARLEY lists some of her recent engagements—a travelling programme of variety—and reports on staff news at headquarters

JULY 25th—Attended Annual General Meeting of National Old People's Welfare Council: Speaker: J. B. Priestley—report on page 152.

SEPTEMBER 3rd-5th—Week-end with Toc H members on IONA.

SEPTEMBER 12th—Guest Speaker at a meeting of GLASGOW Area held at Cumbernauld—Several Branches represented.

SEPTEMBER 13th—Guest speaker at Area Meeting of Toc H and Women's Association in EDINBURGH—Several Branches represented.

SEPTEMBER 14th—Guest speaker at Area Meeting in DARTINGTON—Several Branches represented.

SEPTEMBER 15th—Guest speaker at Area Meeting in WEST HARTLEPOOL—Several Branches represented.

SEPTEMBER 16th—Guest speaker at dinner given by Women's Association members of DURHAM Area—Ten Branches represented.

SEPTEMBER 21st—Entertained Mr. and Mrs. Neil McNeil to lunch at Crutched Friars House—Neil is the new Toc H Staff man for Scotland.

SEPTEMBER 23rd/24th/25th—Staff and C.E.C. Weekend at Connaught Hall, 41 Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1. Report in next issue. Sunday 25th—2.30 p.m. Service in All Hallows for the dedication of Cross and Candlesticks given by Toc H Women's Association in memory of Miss Macfie.

SEPTEMBER 26th—Meetings with Field Staff at H.Q.

Mrs. Bell (l.)—with her son and his wife and their daughter after her confirmation



STAFF NOTES

Bridget Pulvermacher was asked to join the Women's Association Staff from September 5th. to work in the Projects Department. Her home is Penttyrch, Cardiff, and she is a member of the Church of England. She spent one year in North Borneo as a V.S.O. volunteer, when she taught English to Chinese children and had numerous other duties, including walking expeditions; one when she led a party of school-children up Borneo's highest mountain. She helped to start a Guide Company in a jungle village.

For one year Miss Pulvermacher did various things; i.e., she was a salesgirl in a departmental store; spent six months at a Baptist "home" in Essex, which catered for a variety of people including homeless old people, middle-aged nervous breakdowns, unmarried teenage mothers, orphans . . .

She also spent two months in Austria, working at a students' hostel, run by the World Council of Churches; one month in Finland, helping to lead a party of British Rangers. She spent three years studying Social Science at Leicester University, where she was President of Hall of residence, Junior Common Room; Chairman of Social Studies Society; Committee and founder member of Poetry society; and Treasurer and member of Hockey and Cricket teams.

Bridget was introduced to the Association through Jennifer Mitchell.

Mrs. Bell is leaving the Accounts Department on October 30th after 11 years at headquarters and is looking forward to her retirement.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

CONSTANCE BEAZLEY makes an important announcement—and a constructive suggestion for a change of thought

SUBSEQUENT to the meeting of the Central Council in April this year, the Staff and Central Executive Committee have been investigating the implications of the proposed 1967 London Festival. As a result of this investigation, and after much careful consideration of the facts put before them, the Central Executive Committee have regretfully come to the conclusion that such a Festival would be beyond our present complement of staff.

Those of us who have never been involved in the planning and implementing of such an enterprise can of course have no idea of what it involves, but when we realise that it would necessitate the full-time secondment of a member of Staff, apart from a very great increase of work at our Headquarters Office, over a period of several months, we cannot fail to recognise that such an undertaking would be an irresponsible misuse of time, effort and money, at a time when our resources are already over-strained.

In coming to this decision, we are very conscious that it will be a disappointment to many members, as indeed it is to us. We have therefore been considering possible alternatives to a National Festival, which might off-set this disappointment.

The success of last year's local Jubilee Festivals up and down the country has inspired Toc H and the Women's Association in some Areas and Districts to resolve to make these an annual event. This seems to us to be an excellent idea. Annual Festivals in different parts of the country would be likely to prove more valuable both to the local membership and to the Movement be something to which all could contribute, and which all could enjoy.

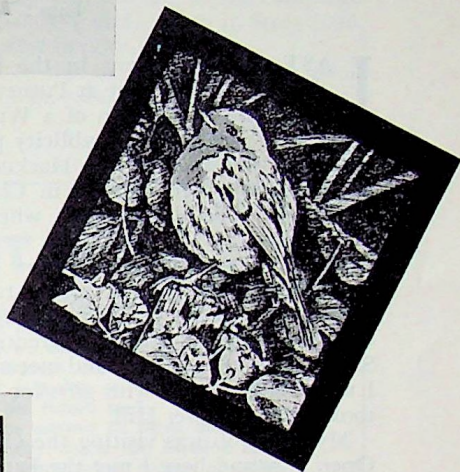
The more one thinks of this, the more it appeals—to do our rejoicing where we do our work, in our own local communities.

All our members will be sorry to hear that Frances Beeton and Jean Perry will be leaving our Staff at the end of the year. There will be more about Frances and Jean in the January LOG.

Christmas Reminders



ORDER your **TOC H DIARIES** from **Toc H H.Q.**, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3; send 4/6d. for each copy; or 5/0d. for one with pencil. Regional and Area Addresses, Ceremonies, Prayers, Training Centres and other references make it first-class support for every man and woman in the membership



TOC H WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PICTURE CLOTH costs 6/-, plus postage, and will brighten party washing-up—in your own home or when you send it as a gift to friends . . .

MINIATURE reproductions of this year's Christmas cards are shown. The **ROBIN**—red breast and border against black and white—costs 4/- a dozen, postage extra; design by Pam Cory.

ANGELS IN ADORATION of the Madonna and Child is by Elizabeth Twistington Higgins and costs 6/-, plus postage

ORDER quickly from **Toc H Women's Association**, Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3

"MUCH SERVING"

"MARTHA", The Association's motorised caravan, has become such a personality in her own right that NANCY GRIFFITHS asked her to write her own report of all the activities which have kept her busy and useful since the spring. Our congratulations !

LAST winter I spent in the friendly shelter of the Royal Hospital and Home at Putney. In the spring I was prepared for work by the son of a Wimbledon member.

My first visit was for publicity purposes to Merstham, Surrey. In May I was busy on the Hackney "Wishing Week" (see July-August Loc), then helping in Christian Aid week, ending the month in Nottinghamshire, where I publicised the Toc H Movement.

Then I visited the Essex show near Chelmsford, where I am becoming an old friend, giving rest to the weary and carrying people and goods. I next parked in the shadow of Lincoln Cathedral for the Staff Conference, during which I drove three Staff members to Boston and met members from nearby Branches. I was finally loaded with gifts for the Westminster Fair, which I took back to Tower Hill.

My next job was visiting the Croydon Guild of Social Service Open Day and here I met the Family case-worker, which lead to a "date" in August. I also attended the Kingston Show organised by Rotary for local charities.

Next I served at the Royal Norfolk show, providing rest room for the helpers. So on to the Croydon Centre for the project for young people, working on a survey for the Environmental Studies Group and helping at the Centre itself. I also took the volunteers on outings to London and elsewhere and the trip to the wine vaults was popular.

The Westminster Fair saw me loaded with a wonderful array of gifts of all kinds for the Toc H Stall. After journeying through London, it was a change to go to Ewhurst, Sussex, to be met by a waving crowd of boys at the Toc H East Sussex District Deaf and Dumb Boys' Camp. Among the outings on which I took these boys was a visit to the 900th Anniversary Celebrations of the Battle of Hastings, and to Ferryfield Airport.

So on to Crabhill House, South Nutfield, to assist at the W.V.S. Winged Fellowship Holiday Home for the Handicapped,

where I took the holidaymakers, and their folding-chairs, out each day. I then journeyed to the Toc H Surrey Area's Boys' Camp at Godalming, collecting a load of tents and provisions for the forty-six boys of about nine years from the Family Service Units in London—and helpers. Here I made myself useful on daily outings.

In August, on two successive weeks, two Croydon mothers, and their children, each spent a week's holiday with me, and the Camping Club of Great Britain kindly provided me with a free site at Chertsey by the Thames.

I am now having some of my battle-scars made good, to be on the job in October in South London, starting with a campaign in Croydon regarding Corneal Grafting and ending in Streatham, publicising the Blood Transfusion Service.

I shall be ready for my winter rest at Putney while I await next year's adventures in the North. (See p. 155.)

PUTTING IT OVER . . .

WHY are we so reluctant to talk about Toc H? Do we lack confidence because we also lack knowledge? Is it because we don't know how to make ourselves heard; how to express the principles of the Movement in words; what is going on in it; what the plans and possibilities for the future are?

Because we think that the answer to these questions is most probably yes in many cases, the London and Home Counties Region are arranging a course of talks on "Putting it Over".

There will be three sessions as follows:—

1. THE MECHANICS OF SPEAKING
2. HOW TO GATHER MATERIAL, MAKE NOTES, AND PREPARE A TALK
3. PRACTICE

The series will be given in Bedford, Luton, St. Albans and at Crutched Friars House during the late autumn and winter, and, if necessary, in other places. Numbers are to be limited to twelve in each group and it is hoped that those who attend will do so with the intention of talking to other organisations, new Branches and sometimes established Branches, from time to time, thus helping to fill the great need for people who are able and willing to "Put it Over".

ELSA PERRIN

(How many of you have kept the where-to-find your facts feature in the July-August LOG for reference?)

—Editor)



On the occasion of the Council's Silver Jubilee, the John Lewis Partnership arranged the exhibition on the left for them, and displayed it first of all in their Oxford Street shop. Afterwards it was shown in others of their shops and is here photographed in Sheffield, at Cole Bros., who belong to the John Lewis Group. On the right hand side are depicted activities arranged by the Sheffield Old People's Welfare Council

Photograph by courtesy of the John Lewis Partnership Ltd. and the Sheffield Old People's Welfare Council.

THE guest speaker was J. B. Priestley. The first point he made was that old people need to be needed, and he stressed the importance of retaining the link between the young and very young, and the elderly. He pointed out that during the growing-up and middle-aged stages, people were too busy to give attention to old people, but the really young usually had much in common with their grandparents. He said that he doubted whether there had ever been a more difficult age in which to grow old, changes being so numerous and rapid. An

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE NATIONAL OLD
PEOPLE'S WELFARE
COUNCIL—

On July 25th, VERA HARLEY attended the Annual Meeting of the National Old People's Welfare Council on behalf of Toc H Women's Association. Here is her report.

ideal state would be one where there was no discrimination between the age groups, but as this was rarely, if ever, the case, it surely would be sensible to favour the old, for then everyone would look forward to a period of honour. If youth is given too many privileges, it would simply mean some eight years of glory and sixty of anticlimax. He quoted Karl Jung as saying that the purpose of youth was to prepare for Life, and the purpose of old age was to prepare for Death. The present-day world regarding as it does technology as the highest maxim, fears death, and is doubtful of religion—but in old age Death should be faced and prepared for, not feared.

THE Chairman Mr. John Moss, C.B.E., speaking to the Annual Report said that during the next ten years it was hoped to double accommodation with Warden Service for the Elderly, but he said that there would still be seven counties and two London Boroughs with none of this type of accommodation in ten years' time.

Old People's Housing was still far from sufficient. The average in the Counties was 69 places for 1,000, in the Boroughs 42 per 1,000 and in London only 19 per 1,000. He asked that Voluntary Organisations should assist in the following ways:—

1. By giving their assistance to Meals on Wheels as this service still needed to be greatly extended.
2. By working with local Old People's Committees in finding out the needs and encouraging local government to get on with the job.
3. By explaining to Old People that National Assistance was now simply a supplementary pension.

(For work being done by different age-groups for each other, see pp. 156 and 171.—*Editor.*)

“FAIR” —

TWENTY-SEVEN charities took part in the Westminster Abbey Market and Fair in Dean's Yard in July, both the men's and the women's associations of our Movement among them.

In November last year we set up a special sub-committee to deal with the Family stall—and to say that we were surprised by the response of the membership must be one of the big under-statements of the year. The response from all over the United Kingdom and abroad was terrific and both Headquarters almost came to a standstill as more and more gifts poured in and more and more volunteers were needed to sort and classify the gifts.

Our warm thanks to all those Branches who responded to our appeals with either gifts or donations; to all those who helped, both at the Fair and behind the scenes. When I tell you that some one-hundred-and-fifty helpers were needed, in one way or another, and that your response matched all our demands, you will guess it was no easy matter to plan the rotas.

Both Headquarters helped to provide full-time personnel to deal with the many enquiries we expected would arise from visitors to our stall. The Committee could do nothing in advance about the weather and the heavens certainly opened on the first day and provided more than a fair share of rain on the next two. In the circumstances our net takings of £1,068 must be considered a wonderful result—and this figure is exclusive of tickets bought by the members, totalling approximately £190. So the Fair ended with the Family's benefitting by £534 and everybody very tired but feeling that a great effort had been a success, both from financial and publicity points of view.

THIS however was not the end: we still had a considerable stock of gifts. We obtained the use of some premises at the corner of Seething Lane, close by 'Toc H Headquarters, and here from August 15th a "shop" was opened for three weeks. This was manned by volunteer staff, and the result of this effort produced a further £1,600 with still a small amount of stock to be disposed of.

minedness

A. H. MORRIS, Chairman of the sub-committee Toc H and Toc H Women's Association set up to deal with the Family's stall at the Westminster Abbey 900th Anniversary Celebrations Fair and Market, outlines the memorable success of the effort

The Fair Executive Committee will be holding its final meeting in due course when the net profit of the Fair will be divisible among the twenty-seven participating charities. While we as a sub-committee have no idea of the total net profit of the Fair at this moment, it is hoped that from one source and another our Family may jointly benefit by a sum approximating to £3,000.

It is excellent that the first united effort by the membership on a national basis should produce such a splendid result.

Finally may I, on behalf of you all, express our thanks to all those members of the Sub-Committee and the staffs at the respective Headquarters, who have given me such strong support during my period of office as Chairman.

SHE'S GOING NORTH

BRANCHES will remember the Central Executive Committee ruled last year, that in order to minimise wear and tear on "Martha", she should be confined to working in the Southern half of the country this year (1966) and in the Northern half in 1967.

Those wishing to have "Martha" in 1967, should therefore be "North of the Wash". Applications should reach the Women's Association headquarters as early in January as possible so that the Committee can consider them and work out "Martha's" itinerary for the year.

It is better if Districts work out a programme together, covering a week or more, than for Branches to send in isolated requests for odd days.

JEAN PERRY

WHAT A GOOD JOB!

THE following account is of how a job of Service benefitted both "sides", and perhaps will suggest to other Toc H members how they can act as a link between similar groups.

For some years past Darlington Toc H members have been visiting Miss Marjorie Bruce, who for reasons of health has been unable to work for some time past and is nearly always confined to her home, but not to her bed.

As a result of our visits, she has become a Toc H Builder, and one day expressed a desire to do some job of Service. At that time, we had heard that some of the girls at the local Teachers' Training College would like to be given occasional hospitality in people's homes. We suggested to Miss Bruce that this might be something that she could do. The Principal of the College visited Miss Bruce and then put two girls in touch with her. The following reports written, the first by the two girls and the second by Miss Bruce, show how valuable this contact has been.

FROM THE GIRLS

“It was our first year in College and for many of us the first year we had spent away from our home, friends and family. It is not surprising that we found it hard to adjust to our new surrounding and way of life. Some of us lived so far away that we could spare neither the time nor the money to go home frequently. When our Principal suggested visiting a local inhabitant, we decided that this would be a wonderful opportunity both to make friends and to find a homely retreat from college life. We were very dubious about the first visit as neither of us had had any experience in social visiting, and were not sure of our suitability. To be quite frank we were two normal teenagers, with the average interests of any young women approaching their 20's, and we wondered if the visits would call for qualities of tact and patience which we did not possess. We need not have worried! From the very first visit, even though we were naturally nervous, we realised that everything would go well—in fact our only worry was whether Miss Bruce would like us as much as we liked her. As time went on, we grew to look forward to the conversation and companionship of our friend; it was so different from our relationships with other girls at college. As an outsider, everything we did at college was new and of interest to her; we were just as interested in her way of life as it differed considerably from ours. We found that a more mature point of view on events helped to put our own ideas in perspective, and looked

JUDY CUBITT sends a report of a two-sided job of service which set up a bridge between two groups . . .

forward to sharing our ideas and plans with her. We always knew that if we were depressed or worried about work, we had somebody to talk it over with, who would give a completely unbiased view, and so be of more help than those involved with the situation.

We have now been visiting for two years and feel that she is really part of our lives. We have shared our happy moments as well as our troubles with her and have enjoyed her friendly interest and stimulating companionship. Probably the reason we enjoyed the visits so much is that we could be completely natural in her company, as irrespective of social visiting, she is the sort of person we could have chosen as our friend.??

**PAULINE ASQUITH
SANDRA THOMPSON**

FROM THE HOSTESS

“As the hostess of the two student girls, I feel very much the same as they do. I have enjoyed their company very much, and being unable to go out and about much myself, I was very interested in their activities, and looked forward to their visits very much.

They brought new interests and friendship to me and I felt very sorry when they had to go home for good, but now I have two more first-year students coming to visit me and I hope we shall all get on well together.

At first I was rather anxious as to how things would go, as I was many years their senior, but all went well, and I soon felt one of them.

I do feel that it would be helpful to all new students to go out visiting, both for their sakes and for those to whom they go. I think it would help them to settle down more quickly for it is not always easy to exchange home life for a communal one.??

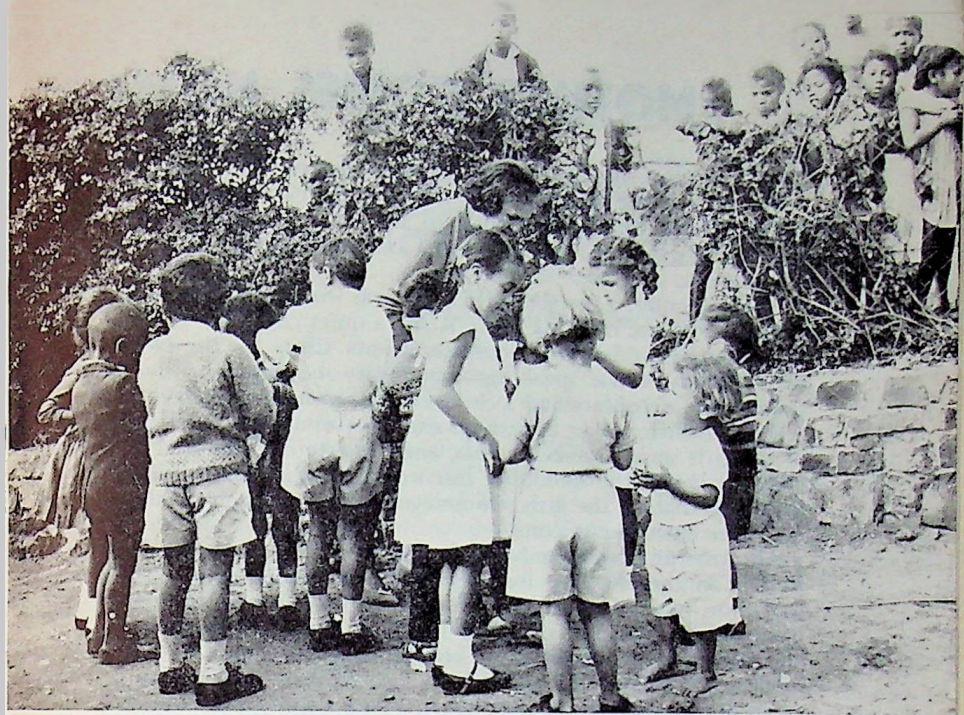
THE girls' parting gift to Miss Bruce was a beautiful puppy.

The Principal of the Training College, Miss P. M. Steele, spoke to a recent Guest Night of the Darlington District and mentioned the value of such contacts. "Students," she said, "should make friends with other generations, not only for the invaluable social aid they could give, but because college life is unrepresentative of the Community at large, and such activity would be helpful in restoring their perspective." One way this link between the generations could be established, she said, was through Toc H members.

LOOK NOW—

—at next year's diary and see if you can VISIT AUSTRIA with RUBY RELF next Spring. The trip is from May 14th—28th, 1967, and will include Innsbruck, Salzburg and Vienna, with a week at Zell-am-see. Write to Miss RUBY RELF, 22 Mountfield Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, for more details if you hope to go. This fine photograph, published by courtesy of the Austrian State Tourist Department, shows the snow and the sunlight charm of the Austrian Tyrol at Seefeld, about an hour's drive from Innsbruck . . .





— at this delightful picture, by Gordon Whitford, when the crèche sponsored by PORT ELIZABETH Branch, had a party. The crèche is for about twenty-four small coloured children and a help to mothers at work. "Usually," writes HILDA DIXON who sent the news and picture for THE LOG, "they wear aprons, but this was a special day so they came in their best." They go to the crèche until they are about six years old and during their time there learn such things as little songs and crayon drawing and cleanliness is stressed. Watchers outside the fence seem wrapt by what one of the helpers is telling members of the crèche . . . We'd like to know, too!

**—AND LOOK AGAIN TO SEE
THE VALUE OF GOOD PHOTO-
GRAPHS . . .**

MOTHER COMES HOME

"THEY are the happiest and most contented children I have ever come across," said the volunteer carpenter as he busied himself in fixing up some steps into the loft of England's newest and most unusual children's home on Friday of last week.

The carpenter, a member of Toc H, was working at the Shatin Children's Home in Wilberforce Road, a quiet cul-de-sac situated not far from the beach at Southsea, Hants. Close by, the people about whom he was speaking—the twenty-one girls who live at the Home—were watching a children's programme on television.

A fact which makes the whole situation unusual is that none of the girls speaks much English, and not one of them had seen England before the middle of last week. Another extraordinary feature is that all the girls, whose ages range from ten to fifteen . . . come from Hong Kong.

All are orphans adopted by Miss Mildred Dibden . . . who has worked in the Far East for over thirty years and who, during that time, has "adopted" and brought up hundreds of orphaned or abandoned Chinese children. If it had not been for her love and attention, many of them would have been left by their relations to die in the streets from lack of care and starvation.

To her the girls are "my daughters". To them she is "Mama".

Now aged sixty-one, Miss Dibden has just returned to live in England, and has brought the last of her daughters with her in the hope that through attending English schools and colleges, they will be able to receive a better education than would be available to them in Hong Kong.

Eventually she would like them to return to live and work among their own people as trained and committed Christian teachers and nurses. "I will not force them," she remarks, "but I would be so pleased if they eventually decide to go back to carry on God's work in Hong Kong."

Miss Dibden, it can be said without fear of contradiction, has become a legend in her lifetime, and has won the love and respect of people living in all parts of the world.

Like the lady of the nursery rhyme who lived in a shoe, this determined, fragile-looking, grey-haired and bespectacled "grand-mother" has frequently had so many children under her care that she literally hasn't known where the next meal was coming from or where she was going to provide shelter for them all. Time and again too she has been faced with situations and conditions which would normally douse the flame of enthusiasm in the heart of the staunchest idealist . . .

— WITH 21 DAUGHTERS

Extracts from an excellent article by PETER CATTERICK published in the CHURCH TIMES of September 22nd, 1966, are reprinted here—by courtesy of the newspaper and the author—to give this picture of the Yip family to members of the Association, many of whom have been interested in them for years

(See also Molly Rampling's letter on p. 170.)

Each of the many set-backs which have confronted her, has, however, provided a challenge; and, with often nothing else to keep her going apart from a burning yet humble Christian faith, she has gone on over and over again to conquer problems which at first appeared impassable mountains in her path.

Another astonishing fact which I discovered when I met Miss Dibden, who was still unpacking her children's toys and clothes behind the gaily painted blue-and-black front door of her home at the weekend, was that she has carried on her life's work without a penny's support from any of the recognised Christian missionary societies.

Away back in the 1920's, when she set out on her self-appointed task of rescuing and providing a "real home" for rejected Chinese children, she did appeal for official backing. But one by one the recognised societies turned her down as being just another idealist with "a bee in her bonnet" which would soon fly away.

Since then she has relied entirely on voluntary support, and even the six-bedroomed house in Southsea has been provided, redecorated and furnished with all the latest equipment entirely with money contributed by individual friends she has made over the years.

Her friends have also obtained a second house in the same road which is being used as an extension to the Home. And, in Hong Kong, members of Toc H and St. Andrews Church, Kowloon, raised nearly £1,000 towards the cost of flying the family to England.

"Really people have been most kind," remarked this indomitable woman, who, throughout her life, has refused to pay herself a salary from the money given to support her work. "After all," she explains, "I am the mother of a family. And no mother ever pays herself a salary for looking after her own children . . ."

She is certainly one of the most remarkable and unassuming women I have ever been privileged to meet.

And, while she carries on at the head of her daughters as they settle down to a new life in England, the work which Miss Dibden started in Hong Kong is being continued by two of her former assistants . . .

The

A. MARY S. SHAW, Pilot to the Australian Council of Toc H Women's Association, looks back to the fit drama of the Rushlights and Lamps of 1929 and forward to this year's starting in Canberra of the great Chain of remembrance . . .

THE first fifty years of Toc H have passed. Its second half-century is setting out in a world very different from that of 1915 and so requires new concepts. But the symbol of the Lamp and the Ceremony of Light remain as a unifying link between the present and the past and between members scattered throughout the world, varying as they do in race, colour and political creeds.

A NUMBER of WOMEN

HERE is further news of the "Affair" in which "Martha" and the Mark in South Hackney played their part in the Wishing Week there. In mid-August a number of women met in Prideaux House, South Hackney, and decided to form a Branch. There is no lack of jobs. Already some are involved in work for the Hackney Family Centre and in the local Old People's Home. Taking an interest in Thalidamide Children and following up the various needs brought to light by the Survey are some of the concerns on the programme. Officially they will be meeting once a month until their numbers grow, but in fact, they will come together more frequently, both on jobs and at the various functions taking place in the Mark which are open to women. There is no lack of keenness and enthusiasm. And so one aim of the project is being achieved. Further, a meeting with local officials has already brought willing co-operation and the Mark is becoming more and more involved in the life of the Community.

ELSA PERRIN

WORLD CHAIN of LIGHT

In 1929, West Australia's Centenary year, the Australian Toc H Conference was held in its Capital, Perth, for the first time. At the Festival Thanksgiving on May 14th the members of the Australian Family were united in spirit when all their Lamps and Rushlights were lit during the Ceremony of Grand Light. But a far greater bond was forged when, following that, "the whole round earth" was linked by a chain of Toc H lights kindled at 9 p.m. successively in each country westward of Australia, completing the circle in Perth twenty-four hours later. This was due to the inspiration of the General Secretary, Donald Cleland—now Sir Donald Cleland, Administrator of Papua/New Guinea—and to the ready acceptance of the idea throughout the Toc H Family. So began our World Chain of Light which has been repeated annually.

IN 1932 "Tubby" started the Chain in Poperinge but this time on December 11th, the anniversary of the birth of Toc H and the light was received back at the Old House on December 12th, his birthday. Although the starting point has changed from year to year to focus interest on some particular centre such as London, Johannesburg or Bulawayo, these dates have remained constant.

This year the World Chain of Light will start in Canberra, Federal Capital of the Country of its origin though more than 2,000 miles from Perth, its birthplace. As we follow its course through big cities and lonely outposts, through countries of affluence and comparative stability and those where poverty, ignorance or racial discrimination are rife, let us remember those who with courage, faith and devotion have striven to ease the lot of others and pray for a bond of true fellowship throughout the Family. In the light of the Lamp let us dedicate ourselves anew to the "setting up of God's Kingdom upon Earth".

MARK THIS . . .

Do you like young men? Are you a good cook? Would you like a residential job with good salary in addition? Are you free to live anywhere? If so, would you consider a job as a resident cook in a Toc H Mark in the Provinces? There is an urgent need for suitable women to work with the housekeepers. Applications and enquiries to: Mrs. Moore, Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

SEND REPORTS
AND GOOD
PHOTOGRAPHS
QUICKLY

A.

B.

C.

KEEP YOUR COPY SHORT
BUT GET IN ALL THE
FACTS—AND ALL THE NAMES

ASHBY-de-la-ZOUCH: We have now moved to No. 1 St. Helen's Churchyard Cottage. The last year has been one of hard work, converting the place and getting the money to do the job. We are now pleased to report that within a week or two, on completion of the purchase, the deeds will be duly handed over to Toc H. We are entertaining in the front parlour from 8th October and shall be pleased to welcome any Branch who cares to visit us. Come for your annual outing? **KATHLEEN PERRY**

BISCOT: On Saturday, September 10th, we ran a grocery stall at St. Mary's Hospital Fête. Stopsley Branch kindly donated some goods and the sale of these, our own supplies and gifts made to the Hospital Social Committee raised £10.16.0. This was added to the fund to build an extension to the recreation hall.

PAULINE J. WOLSEY

BLETCHLEY: We run a trolley shop at The Coppice old people's home. We make a small amount on this and by adding money from a special effort were able to buy a hair-drier. **ETHEL CURRY**
(A local newspaper cutting illustrated how much this was appreciated by people in the home.—Editor).

OTLEY: Toc H, Toc H Women's Association and Otley Toc H Volunteers Pop Group ran a combined operation to give thirty elderly and infirm friends of members a car outing to Appletreewick on September 3rd. Photographs were taken by the local Press at the beginning of the run, which went through the Washburn Valley, on to the new reservoir at Thruscross—a week before the official opening—and via Burnsall, a village famous for its annual Fell Race.

NORAH M. LAKER



Photo: by courtesy of
G. L. J. Lux, Tetbury

TETBURY'S First Prize tableau . . .

SAWBRIDGEWORTH: On August 23rd we entertained blind and handicapped members from the Hazelwood Home at Loughton and they were accompanied by members of the Toc H Branch at Loughton.

MABEL PARMITER

SCOTLAND: "Since the W.A. in Scotland have become affiliated to the Scottish Council of Churches we are expected to take part in consultations on subjects of concern at Scottish Churches House. Shielah Rowan-Hamilton, who is on the Scottish Viewers Panel and has been at a conference on Mass Media of Communication, will represent us at a *Consultation on the Influence of Television* in October." Extract from the September issue of newsletter from Scotland.

TETBURY: We carried off first prize with our tableau of the World Cup in the local carnival. The dog shown represents the one which found the Gold Cup!

GLADYS VIOLET HARRISON

WIMBORNE: On July 20th we took twenty-nine mentally handicapped women to Weymouth by coach; there we had tea, kindly served and waited on by the members of Radipole Branch and then were well entertained with recitations and songs by our guests.

HILDA ROWLAND



BILSTON'S newest member, Mrs. Ethel Guy, is Initiated . . .

CODSALL Branch's guest-for-an-afternoon—Mrs. Doris Starbuck, patient at a home in Leamington Spa and "adopted" by the Branch—gets a big welcome on arrival from Miss Betty Kuphal (left) and Mrs. J. Smith. Leamington members saw her on to the train, and met her on return, at Leamington . . .

Photo: "Express and Star", Wolverhampton



MARGARET LAVOCAT

It was in 1955 that I first met Margaret and Rowland Lavocat at St. John's Church Club and we became friends, and in 1956 I had the very great pleasure of initiating her into our Toe H Branch at Harpenden. She was a shy, retiring person but soon blossomed forth and became very popular with our members. Forever ready to help in any way, she became Secretary from 1959-61 and was more than efficient. When she went to live in Little Chalfont in 1962, Gwen Tett got in touch with her and they spent many happy visits to Headquarters to help with THE LOG. In 1964 she became Secretary for Rickmansworth. Now she has died at the early age of 57 after an operation in February and very painful illness. The Rickmansworth members and I, along with other friends, joined Rowland and her family at her funeral on August 17th at Little Chalfont, and to them we extend our sympathy.

FLORENCE S. HORN

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT GARDEN PARTY

"MUM, the lads want to know are we having a garden party this year?"

This question was raised in January and the speaker was our fourteen-year-old son.

In 1965 we had about two hundred guests, Toc H, church members and personal friends of the family, the day was wet and over £60 was raised. Feelings were mixed, at least on my part, as to whether another attempt was opportune. However, borne along by enthusiasm for our project, Branches were given the date early in the year, invitations posted in June, many kind offers of help received and replies ticked off.

Then the pile up of "good as new" and "white elephant" goods began in our (fortunately) spare room. By Friday evening before the Saturday itself we were receiving one hundred cups, saucers, plates, stacked chairs, tables and trestles, fetched from our church hall, and so on.

At 7 a.m. on July 9th, it was raining, but by mid-morning it was clear and the stalls began to take shape. Helpers had worked nobly, many of them children, and some stayed to lunch. By two o'clock the sun was out and the first-comers were stall-holders and their families, including our volunteer cashier. George Lee had a well-patronised literature stall and young Simon helped by selling pens.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Sutton Coldfield came and joined in the fun, and at six o'clock the counting and clearing up was well under way and, with later donations, £91 was raised for Family Purses and other Toc H needs.

More than this, though, is the importance of getting Toc H known by a friendly get-together of members and friends from the whole district and beyond. This also builds up a nucleus of friends who will help with any other Toc H job or event.

JEAN TUNNADINE

QUIET MAN OF TOC H

AT the beginning of May Scottish Toc H, and Ayr Branches in particular, suffered a great loss with Alex Miller's death. Alex was one of those wonderful individuals happiest working in the background, and it is not until they have gone that one realizes just how high their personal contribution was. Our Branch had to struggle for quite a few years to become established and it was partly through the help and encouragement from Alex and the Men's Branch that we survived. We were proud to know Alex not only as a friend but also for the feeling that we were somehow connected with the beginnings of Toc H. He was with Tubby in finding the House where the roots of our Movement started. Scottish Toc H has lost a wonderful champion and Ayr a friend who did so much so quietly. MARGARET STEIN



HAPPY PICTURE: *With its Founder, Don McKenzie, at "Etembeni" (Botha's Hill, Natal) are, left to right, Thora Cowell, former S. African staff member; Mrs. De Villiers, S. African Pilot and Mrs. Marie Wiggill, Chairman, Central Africa*

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“WE WILL REMEMBER”



- MARGARET BARTON—*Australia and ex-Hong Kong.*
26.4.51—30.5.66
- MR. F. MATTHEWS—*Builder (Greenbank).* 8.2.56—July, '66
- MARGARET H. LINTON—*Roseworth.* 19.2.62—5.6.66
- AGNES L. GORNALL—*Builder (Westcliff-on-Sea).*
29.8.62—July, 1966
- DAISY ELIZABETH WESTELL—*Ipswich.* 14.6.54—27.7.66
- IRENE DONALD—*Builder (Booker Joint).* 23.7.60—8.12.65
- LILIAN ELIZABETH TODD—*Whaplode (Founder Member).*
12.11.51—4.8.66
- RUTH MARIAN P. RALPH—*Shrewsbury.* 28.4.65—17.7.66
- MURIEL HARWOOD—*Radlett (Founder member).*
20.6.27—11.9.66
- MRS. J. E. KNIGHT—*Builder (Radipole).* 28.10.49—July, '66
- EDITH NORAH FULLBROOK—*Builder (Sevenoaks).*
10.9.58—August, 1966
- EDITH CLEMENTS—*R.H.H.I.* 5.6.62—11.7.66.
- MRS. R. BAKER—*Builder (Mansfield Woodhouse).*
12.5.54—17.8.66
- MARY SWIFT—*Ashby-de-la-Zouch.* 5.7.49—28.7.66
- ETHEL ANN BROMLEY, née Brain—*Woodford.*
9.1.45—4.9.66
- MARGARET LAIDLER—*Eltham.* 9.3.60—4.9.66
- MRS. E. ASKIN—*Builder (Mablethorpe).* 1.6.60—April, '66
- (DAPHNE) JOAN KATHLEEN WHEELER—*Fleet.* 9.2.65—23.8.66
- ANNIE KATE WELLS—*Fleet.* 13.9.62—18.4.66
- MRS. B. CHAMBERLAIN—*Builder (Wellingborough Tudor).*
28.9.51—1965
- WINIFRED D. LARKING—*Builder (Holland-on-Sea).*
18.1.56—24.8.66
- ELSIE HANKINSON—*St. Helens.* 25.6.45—18.8.66
- MARGARET LAVOCAT—*Rickmansworth.* 28.4.58—13.8.66

Can you HELP?

An old friend of Tubby's and great benefactress of Toc H, is in urgent need of a kindly companion/house-keeper. She lives in Surrey. If you have any ideas or suggestions regarding finding such a person, please write to Vera Harley, Toc H Women's Association, Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3.

Letters

DEAR EDITOR

Thank you very much for sending us the latest issue of *THE LOG*. We are very glad to see Miss Burtchett's excellent report of last April's Annual General Meeting. Her last sentence refers to the need for concentrating more attention on those who teach the mentally handicapped. Miss Burtchett may be interested to know that the next project on our Five Year Development programme is, in fact, a teacher's training college, plans for which are already much advanced. It is to be situated within the Selly Oak complex of colleges at Birmingham. We are hoping to reach the target appeals figure by the end of the year so that these plans can be set in motion.

If we can supply any information which may be of interest to yourself or your readers, I shall be very glad to help you.

FRANCIS TAYLOR

*(Publicity Officer, National Society
for Mentally Handicapped Children).*

DEAR EDITOR

Over the past years I have had a good deal to do with the Shatin Home, especially in organising the "Prayer Aunts" scheme in this area.

When I went to meet Miss Dibden on her preparatory visit to England, I said I thought we should try to get some kind of article about their move to England into *THE LOG*. A project like this should awaken great interest throughout Toc H and the Women's Association who have always had links with the Home.

This article in the *CHURCH TIMES* (See page 160) seems so excellent that I thought you might be able to use it, in whole or in part for the November-December *LOG*, and awaken some special interest before Christmas.

MOLLY RAMPLING

DEAR EDITOR

Please *not* the "Charity Fund" (ref. letter in the July-August Log). *Charity* may be a good old-fashioned English word, with a beautiful meaning, but it is not the commonly accepted meaning of the word today. Why change the name? A *Job* Fund explains it. If full details are asked for from someone new to balance sheets, and we must have many new Treasurers each year struggling with first-time efforts, I can see HQ receiving some delightful essays! But essays take time to read . . .

Jean Perry's notes are excellent and easy to follow if carefully read.

D. A. HIBBART

(*Treasurer, Patcham Branch*)

DEAR EDITOR

I did enjoy the article, and very good picture of Dor Knap in the July-August Log. I knew the people who lived there during the war and my sister spent a leave there with them.

It is a lovely place and I would thoroughly recommend it, as Betty Warren says, to anyone considering a course.

VERA WILLIAM

(*Brecon*)

DEAR EDITOR

Someone in THE LOG asks for information about the young people and their activities. I have hastily written my impression of a talk given locally. I was very impressed and feel the Movement will certainly be worth-while with such fine young people in it. I am quite a new member.

This young man was talking of the work he and a group of young people are doing to help the elderly, and any in need, in the North Nottingham area. Just over a year ago, twenty young people got together and called themselves The Mobile Action Group. During the year they had taken twenty-five boys to camp, some from broken homes, and had a good holiday together. The leader, Gordon Musson, invites these boys to local activities from time to time and so keeps in touch with them.

The group have gone out each week to paint, paper, and generally decorate the homes of elderly people in need; they have weeded gardens, scrubbed floors, and made a number of people feel that somebody *cares*.

In just over a year the Group has doubled its strength and they now feel it is time to divide into two groups. They have one great problem—transport. You can imagine the difficulty of getting paper and paint, steps and planks from one part of the city to another. Fêtes, jumble sales, etc., are being organised to raise money for the van so urgently needed.

When I talked to Gordon after the meeting, he said: "Money isn't important." I said quickly: "Oh but it is . . ." But thinking it over, realised what he meant. First of all must come the desire, the enthusiasm, the zeal and the sincerity and will to work and then the money and other things will come too.

ALICE BEESLEY, S.R.N.

(Nottingham)

DEAR EDITOR,

On behalf of all members from the Western Area, may I congratulate and commend all members of staff at Headquarters, for the very arduous organising which was laid upon them to achieve such wonderful success with the Westminster Stall. The Finance figure was most staggering. How grateful and thrilled the Movement should be to you all for this great effort. Branches, too, responded with their gifts, but the sorting and manning the stall for a whole week, must indeed have been a colossal job.

MARION FOLLEY

(Bristol)

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To Miss W. Adams at Crutched Friars House

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